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363

PEAK TRAMWAY COMPANY, LIMITED

TIME TABLE

WEEK DAYS.			
7.00 a.m.	to 8.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes	
8.00	"	to 10.00	10
10.00	"	to 11.00	18
11.00	"	to 12.45 p.m.	18
12.45 p.m.	to 1.15	"	10
1.15	"	to 1.45	18
1.45	"	to 2.15	10
2.15	"	to 3.00	18
3.00	"	to 8.00	10

MEMBERS OF POLICE RESERVE
OFF TO THE FRONT.PRESENTATIONS TO INSPECTOR
MASON AND P.C. FYFE.

There was a large attendance of members of the Special Police Reserve at their headquarters last evening when presentations were made to Chief Inspector Mason and P.C. Fyfe, members of the Force, who have volunteered for active service and are leaving shortly for Home. Mr. F. C. Jenkin, the Deputy Superintendent, presided and was supported by Mr. J. W. Franks, and Mr. T. F. Hough, Asst. Superintendents, and Dr. Jordan, the Surgeon to the Force. Most of the officers inspectors were also present.

Both Chief Inspector Mason and P.C. Fyfe were presented with silver flasks, suitably inscribed, from the Force as a whole, and with cases of pipes from the members of No. 2 Company. It was also intimated that they would receive drafts on London for no considerable amount before their boat sailed. Chief Inspector Mason, in addition, was given a gold watch box as a recognition of the hard work he had done on behalf of the Corps since its formation.

Mr. F. C. Jenkin, in making the presentations, said they had all met together for that special purpose that evening in order to indicate how much they appreciated the fact that two more of their members were going to join their other members who had already gone to serve H.M. the King at the Front. Chief Inspector Mason, who had joined the Corps on the day of its formation, had been, he thought, one of its most valuable members (Applause). One was apt to forget at the present time, when they were an accomplished and disciplined force, that for many months, when hundreds of men were thrown on their hands, untrained and unskilled, it was essential that they should be able to fall back on a small body of officers who would undertake the not very easy task of training those men so that they might go with credit into the future view. For himself, he had no hesitation in saying that the manual exercises of the Police Reserve were performed in as smart a manner as they were performed by any other Auxiliary Force in this Colony, and that was entirely due, absolutely and unquestionably, to what Mr. Mason had done in the first six months of the life of the Police Reserve (Applause). Upon parade — he would say nothing about what he looked like in multi — Inspector Mason was, he considered, undoubtedly the smartest man the Corps possessed. He had the pride of uniform which it would be well if other people had. He had not only pride of uniform but pride of rank and was never failing in paying what he considered to be the courtesies which marked the well disciplined force. Although he might sometimes have been considered indiscreet in what he said and did, Inspector Mason was a man who had opinions of his own and was prepared to act up to them, regardless of the opinions of others. A man who would do that was a man. Underneath his jocular manner there was unquestionably the very best type of man, and he was sure that when their Chief Inspector had a more serious job to do than he had in the Police Reserve he would prove himself as good a "Britisher" as ever stepped out of Hongkong (Applause). With in three months Inspector Mason had risen from the ranks to his present position and had been his (the speaker's) second in command for 18 months. He hoped the day was not long distant when Chief Inspector Mason would be again second in command, at not first in command, of a force of 700 men. It was needless for him to say that such promotion was a mark of efficiency and of Inspector Mason's ability to deal with the problems with which they were faced. (Applause.)

Addressing P.C. Fyfe, the Deputy Superintendent said they could not all be Chief Inspectors and it fell to the lot of the constables really to do the donkey work which merited the credit they obtained. It was to the constable after all to whom the Colony looked, for he was the man who performed the whole of the duties the Police Reserve were called upon to perform. He personally knew P.C. Fyfe chiefly through the report sheet (Laughter). From the discipline

(Continued at foot of next column.)

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.
SIMILAR STORIES.

Two Chinese were charged before Mr. Melbourne, each with being in possession of 400 rounds of Mauser revolver ammunition. The men were searched by a suspicious *lukong*, and each had the 400 rounds tied around their bodies.

The excuse put forward by both of the defendants was that they had been given the ammunition to carry by another man. Each was fined \$50, and the ammunition was ordered to be confiscated.

JUNK TROUBLES.

A Chinese boy, aged 14 years, whose head was badly damaged, was the complainant in a case of assault. The boy, who lives on a junk, was the unfortunate victim of a free fight. It was alleged that the defendant's junk "bumped" the junk on which the boy and his family lived. This led to a fight during which the boy's head was damaged, with, he alleged, a boat hook.

Mr. Melbourne ordered \$1 compensation to be paid, and bound the defendant over, in the sum of \$25, to be of good behaviour for three months.

INTERESTING LEGAL POINT
AT SHANGHAI.RIGHT OF GERMANS TO SUE IN
U.S.A. COURT UPHOLD.

In the United States Court for China on March 15th the Hon. C. S. Lobengier, Judge, delivered the following judgment in the case of Karl Schnabel and Carl Otto Gaumer, co-partners under the name and style of Schnabel, Gaumer & Co., v. Garland Steamship Co.:

This is a motion to suspend the cause on the ground that plaintiffs are German subjects and that diplomatic relation between their Government and that of the United States have been severed. No authority is cited which would justify such action. The law on the subject is thus laid down in a work of authority:

"The right of an alien enemy to sue a friendly citizen in the courts of the latter's country is suspended during the war."

The same authority declares that the "right to sue revives at the close of war." This is as far as any of the authorities appear to go. Resort to alien courts is recognized as a right and it is suspended only "during war."

There is no state of war at present between the United States and any other country, and no Court in the United States would be justified in taking the action here sought. Much less would it be proper for this Court, which was established *inter alia* for the purpose of providing a forum in which claims against American citizens by those of other nationalities may be heard in alien territory.

The motion is accordingly over-ruled.

department he had learned of his extraordinary frailty and his disposition to contract all kinds of temporary illnesses whereby he had claimed that he was entitled to be absent from patrol and other police duties (Loud laughter). He was indeed sorry that an otherwise pleasant voyage would be marred, in P.C. Fyfe's opinion, by the fact that he still owed him an extra twelve patrols. All he had to say was that he hoped P.C. Fyfe would shoot better than he had done while he had been with them. However, shooting at a target for the Auxiliary Police Forces was one thing; his whack at the front for the military forces was another thing and he was sure P.C. Fyfe would be there when it had to be done. (Applause.)

Mr. Jenkin then presented the match-box and flask to Chief Inspector Mason and back to P.C. Fyfe on behalf of the police force, and Chief Inspector d'Almeida handed both men a case of pipes on behalf of No. 2 Company.

Chief Inspector Mason, in returning thanks, remarked that if it were not perhaps that some of his friends would misunderstand him, he would say that his heart was too full for words. He thanked them one and all for the gifts they had made to him. He would keep them always and hand them down to his children if he ever had any. He could only say that he would do his duty to the best of his ability, always remembering that he was fighting for his King and Country and for the honour of the Corps of which he had had the honour of being one of the leading members. (Applause.)

P.C. Fyfe also returned thanks and the gathering separated.

At the Hongkong Hotel last evening a dinner was given by No. 2 Platoon, A Coy., Hongkong Volunteer Reserves, in honour of Sergeant Ross, who is leaving to-day for the Front. Lieut. Sutherland was in the chair and among the guests present were Capt. Champkin, Capt. G. G. Wood, Lieut. A. E. Wright and Lieut. Evan Jones. The Chairman proposed the health of the guest, to which Sergeant Ross suitably replied. Company Sergeant Major Bond made a presentation on behalf of the Reserves, and good wishes were also expressed by Co. Serjeant Major Cooke, Corp. Sandford, and Pte. W. Lomas. After dinner the party adjourned to the Victoria Theatre, where seats had been reserved.

SPORT.

ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE.

ANNUAL ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The annual athletic sports in connection with St. Paul's College were held yesterday afternoon on the race-course, Happy Valley, the use of which was kindly granted by the Hongkong Jockey Club. The weather conditions were ideal and there was a large gathering of spectators, who manifested the keenest interest in the various events. Among those present were Mrs. Lander (who distributed the prizes) and Commodore Sandeman and Mrs. Sandeman. The officials were: Patron, The Right Rev. Bishop of Victoria; President, Rev. G. E. S. Updell; Judges, Messrs. Wei Wing Yuet, Chan Hing Wa, Ho Kwai Chiu, G. Rowan, Chan Wai Yau, Wong Siu Pun, Ip Chor Sang, Tang Wai Chun, Fok Wing Ching, Chiu Yan Kwong; Starters, Messrs. Ho Wing Kin, A. Rowan, Wong Sau Nin, E. G. Stewart; Time-keepers, Messrs. Arnold Hughes, C. Gerken and Chan Man Woon.

The band of the 74th Punjabis, under the baton of Mr. Christian, discoursed selections at intervals. Refreshments were served to the College guests by a large committee of the staff and pupils.

From every point of view the meeting was a complete success. There was great variety in the programme, the handicapping was excellent, and all the competitions were keenly contested, the finishes being generally close and exciting.

At the close, in introducing Mrs. Lander and requesting her to present the prizes, the Rev. G. E. S. Updell said they had had a very successful afternoon's sport, which was to be fittingly closed by the presentation of the prizes which had been so well and worthily won. They were all deeply indebted to Mrs. Lander for agreeing to come and perform that duty, which was in keeping with her continuous and kindly interest in the progress and welfare of the College. (Applause.) There was one note of regret in connection with their gathering, and that was the absence of Mr. Stewart, to share with them in the enjoyment of the sport. He was aware that their sports were to be held that afternoon, and he would be waiting expectantly for letters from the boys telling him all about them. (Applause.) They all regretted, too, the absence of the Bishop of Victoria, the Warden of the College, who was travelling in China at present. They might be interested to know that there were five schools represented there that day: St. Paul's College, St. Paul's Junior School, St. Paul's Hostel School, St. Paul's Girls School, and St. Paul's School, Aberdeen, and the pupils enrolled in these schools numbered approximately 800. (Applause.)

He personally wished to thank Mr. E. G. Stewart and the members of the staff for the excellent manner in which they had managed and carried through the arrangements. (Applause.) He then called on Mrs. Lander, who after distributing the prizes, was presented with a beautiful bouquet by one of the very junior pupils.

The proceedings were brought to a close by cheers for Mrs. Lander and the playing of "God save the King" by the band.

PRIZE LIST.

SENIOR LONG JUMP:—1, Chin Kwong Yan (17 ft.); 2, Kwok Ping Kong; 3, Cheung U Sui; 4, Tso Chi On.

SENIOR 100 YARDS:—1, Tsoi Wah Fung; 2, Ng Fung Tai; 3, Lu Po Hang; 4, Lu Po Lun.

JUNIOR 100 YARDS:—1, Wong King Chiu; 2, Chan Kwok Chi; 3, Li Ngok; 4, Bong Chung Khin.

SMALL BOYS 100 YARDS:—1, Lam Yau Loong; 2, Cheung Wing Heung; 3, Charlie J. Young.

SENIOR HIGH JUMP:—1, Chin Kwong Yan (height 4 ft. 10 in.); 2, Ng Hung Tai; 3, Tso Chi On.

JUNIOR HIGH JUMP:—1, Li Ngok (height 4 ft. 5 in.); 2, Lam To Man; 3, Chan Hon.

STAFF RACE (HANDICAP):—1, Mr. Wong Shan Nin; 2, Mr. Chan Hing Wah; 3, Mr. E. G. Stewart; 4, Mr. G. Rowan.

SENIOR QUARTER MILE:—1, Chin Kwong Yan; 2, Ng Hung Tai; 3, Cheung U Sui.

JUNIOR QUARTER MILE:—1, Wong King Chiu; 2, Tang Yau Cheung; 3, Lam To Man.

SMALL BOYS 300 YARDS (HANDICAP):—1, Charles J. Young; 2, Wong Lan Wai; 3, Lam Yau Loong.

JUNIOR SCHOOL 100 YARDS:—1, Leung Kam Hung; 2, Cheung Sai Pui; 3, Leung Yik Chiu.

JUNIOR SCHOOL 200 YARDS:—1, Tsoi Yik Lim; 2, Luk Lu Kwan; 3, Young Tsai To.

SENIOR 200 YARDS:—1, Tsoi Wah Fung; 2, Lu Po Hang.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

SCENE ON THE "SUI TAI".
CHIEF OFFICER SENT TO PRISON.

At the Hongkong Marine Court yesterday, Capt. W. A. Valentine, master of the Hongkong-Macao steamer *Sui Tai*, charged Thomas Maddicotte, Chief Officer of the vessel, with that he came on duty in an intoxicated state and assaulted the Chief Engineer, Mr. H. Smythe, and also that officer's "boy," on the 19th inst.

Defendant pleaded guilty.

Capt. Valentine said that on the morning of the 19th the Chief Engineer reported to him that he could not sleep in his room on account of the noise made by the Chief Officer, so he had shifted into one of the saloon cabins.

Comm. Beckwith—Was the Chief Officer drunk?—I expect so; I did not see him.

Witness added that upon arrival in Hongkong the Chief Engineer's "boy" reported to him that he had been assaulted by the Chief Officer. Witness saw the Chief Officer, who was not sober, and he was warned, but allowed to remain owing to the scarcity of men. Capt. Connor had been sent for to see the defendant. When the Chief Engineer came on board during the day, witness saw the Chief Officer follow him to his cabin.

Witness also followed, and when he got to the cabin door he saw the Chief Engineer on the ground, he having been struck down by the Chief Officer. The Chief Engineer was not badly injured, but he might have been. The Chief Officer was intoxicated, and when Capt. Connor had again been summoned he was dismissed.

The Chief Engineer said that on the night of the 18th, when in Macao, he arrived on board about 11 p.m., and there was so much noise going on in the Chief Officer's room, which adjoined his, that he went along to one of the saloon cabins. The Chief Officer was banging the wall, and shouting out. In the morning he mentioned the matter to Capt. Valentine. On arrival in Hongkong the Chief Officer, about noon on the 19th, came to him and said he was ill. Witness then spoke to him about the noise he made the previous night, and defendant said he was in great pain. Witness then went ashore, and returned about 1.15 p.m. The Chief Officer saw him go to his room and followed him to the door. The defendant then accused him of having reported to Capt. Connor that he had been drunk. Witness denied this, and then the Chief Officer called him some foul names and struck him on the side of the head. The defendant, who had been on the boat for about a month, was under the influence of liquor.

Defendant said he had no questions. "I put myself at the mercy of the Court," he added.

Comm. Beckwith—You have been a master mariner, have you not?

Defendant—Yes, sir.

And is this your idea of discipline on a ship?—No, sir, I—

Comm. Beckwith—That is all I want to know. Have you been in prison before?—No, sir.

Comm. Beckwith then said he found the charge proved, and sentenced defendant to 28 days' hard labour.

JUNIOR 220 YARDS:—1, Wong King Chiu; 2, Li Ngok; 3, Chan Kwok Chi.

SMALL BOYS 220 YARDS:—1, Lam Yau Loong; 2, Lam Ping Leung; 3, Charles J. Young.

OLD BOYS RACE, 220 YARDS:—1, Chan Man Woon; 2, Cheung Tsun Sing; 3, Chan Hing Wah.

220 YARDS (HANDICAP):—1, Tang Yau Cheung; 2, Tsoi Chi On; 3, Fung Wo In.

SENIOR HALF-MILE:—1, Chin Kwong Yan; 2, Kwok Ping Kong; 3, Lu Po Hang.

ONE MILE BICYCLE RACE:—1, Wong Kam Cheung; 2, Ho Ka Lau; 3, Li Shiu Ki.

50 YARDS KINDERGARTEN:—1, Lam Yau Loong; 2, Cheung Yu Wing; 3, Li Mai Yang; 4, Lam Chik Ho; 5, Chan Tu Fong; 6, Shi Po Wing.

ONE MILE:—1, Siu Pui Kwan; 2, Cheung U Sui; 3, Cheung Sai Hung.

THREE LAPPED RACE:—1, Tsoi Wah Fung and Wong Kam Cheung; 2, Li Tsau Hung and Tsoi Hong Ning; 3, Ng Fung Tai and Lu Po Hang.

SACK RACE:—1, Leung Kwok Kong; 2, Bong John Khin; 3, Lam Ping Leung.

CONSOLATION RACE:—1, Li Chi Sui; 2, Li King On; 3, Chan Tak Kwong.

FORMS RELAY RACE:—1, Form FA; 2, Form FL.

FORMS TUG-OF-WAR:—1, Form Lower IV.A; 2, Form V.A.

SPECIAL EVENT FOR ST. PAUL'S SCHOOLS, ABERDEEN:—1, Au Yung Wong; 2, Chung Fuk Loi; 3, Chim Lu Fui.

SENIOR CHAMPION:—Chin Kwong Yan.

JUNIOR CHAMPION:—Wong King Chiu.

INTIMATIONS

LANE,
CRAWFORD & Co.WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED A NEW STOCK OF
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OUR NOTED FOOTWEAR IS ACKNOWLEDGED

THE BEST VALUE IN THE TRADE.

WHITE CANVAS SHOES

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THE "WARD" SHOE

A STRONG BLACK GLACE, ONE BAR SHOE WITH 1½ INCH SQUARE HEELS FINISHED WITH RUBBER TIP.

SPECIAL VALUE \$6.50 PER PAIR.

THIS IS THE IDEAL SHOE FOR

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ALL SHOES STOCKED IN HALF SIZES AND TWO FITTINGS.

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IN BLACK AND WHITE.

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ISHERWOOD CIGARETTES.

HAND-MADE IN CAIRO.

No. 3, Large ...

\$4.00 per 100

or 2/30 .. 50

No. 4, Medium ...

\$3.60 per 100

or 1/35 .. 50

No. 5, Small ...

\$3.20 per 100

or 1/35 .. 50

Ask your

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An absolutely

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HONGKONG HOTEL KIOSK.

[94-1]

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BLOUSES

VOILE GOWNS.

INSPECTION INVITED.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

LOST.

IN the vicinity of ROBINSON ROAD, on the 20th instant, a WHITE and BLACK JAPANESE POODLE DOG. Answering to the Name of "NESTOR". Finder please communicate with—
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
429

WANTED.

WIRELESS OPERATOR Wanted for s.s. "Glasgow". Marconi plant. Terms on application to—
"MASTER".
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
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DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF FIVE DOLLARS per Share has been Declared and will be Payable at the HONGKONG and SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on or after WEDNESDAY, the 4th April.
The REGISTER of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, 31st March, to WEDNESDAY, 4th April, both days inclusive, during which days no Transfer of Shares can be made.
DIVIDEND WARRANTS will be ready on WEDNESDAY, the 4th April, and may be obtained on application.
DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 21st March, 1917. [481]

GULA KALUMPONG RUBBER ESTATES, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above Company will take place on MONDAY, 26th March.
The REGISTER will be CLOSED from 24th March to 4th April, both days inclusive.
By Order,
LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS,
Colonial Register.
Hongkong, 21st March, 1917. [482]

PEAK TRAMWAY COMPANY, LTD. NOTICE.

ABOUT 240 Members of the HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RESERVES are being conveyed by Tram to the Peak between 2.15 and 3.30 p.m. on SATURDAY, 24th March. The Management would be much obliged if the Peak residents to and the public would, as far as possible, refrain from travelling to the Peak during the hours of the day above mentioned.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
[483]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship "J. PAN," having arrived from the above Port. Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd. whence and from the wharves delivery may be obtained.
Goods not cleared by 23th inst. will be subject to rent.
All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined by Messrs. Goddard and Douglas on 27th inst. at 10 A.M.
Claims against the Steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of Steamer, otherwise they will not be recognised.
No Fire Insurance will be effected by the undersigned in any case whatever.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by DAVID SASSOON & CO., LTD.
Agents.
Hongkong, 21st March, 1917. [484]

NOTICE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that, on and after the 22nd instant, and until further Notice, the Road from DEEP WATER BAY to REBULUS BAY will be CLOSED to Motor and Vehicular Traffic in order to admit of certain improvements being effected thereto.
W. CLATHAM,
Director of Public Works.
Public Works Office,
Hongkong, 20th March, 1917. [425]

NOTICE.

S.S. "BEEWINDVALE."
NEITHER the Captain nor the Owners will be Responsible for any Debts incurred by the Crew of the above vessel.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1917. [416]

NOTICE.

WE have been Appointed by Messrs. MCKESSON & ROBBINS, INC., of NEW YORK, to be their Sole Agents for Hongkong, Macao, Kwong Chow and South China, for the sale of Drugs, Chemicals, Druggists' Sundries and kindred goods.
THE HONGKONG MERCANTILE CO., LTD.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1917. [414]

FOR SALE.

ONE 104 B.H.P. HORNSBY ACKROYD OIL ENGINE complete with and coupled direct to one 6 K.W. Continuous Current Shunt Wound Dynamo of 50/70 volts with shunt regulator.
Also ONE SWITCHBOARD for ACCUMULATORS, DYNAMO, &c., complete with instruments for 100 Amps.
For further particulars apply to—
LINSFORD & DAVIS,
Alexandra Buildings.
[61]

PUBLIC COMPANIES

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, St. George's Buildings, Chater Road, Victoria, Hongkong, on TUESDAY, the 27th day of March, 1917, at 11.30 A.M., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the Directors for the year ending 31st December, 1916, and declaring a Dividend.
By Order of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Hongkong, 6th March, 1917. [374]

THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Office of the Company, 2, Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, on TUESDAY, 27th March, 1917, at 12 Noon, for consideration of the Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.
The SHARE REGISTER and TRANSFER BOOKS will be CLOSED from the 21st to the 27th inst., both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
R. M. DYER,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1917. [413]

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD.

THE THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the General Managers at 11.30 A.M. on WEDNESDAY, 25th March, to receive a Statement of the Company's Accounts for 31st December, 1916, and the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to 23rd inst., both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 8th March, 1917. [381]

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersigned at Noon, on WEDNESDAY, the 28th inst.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to the 23rd inst., both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 4th March, 1917. [382]

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Office of the General Agents, Pedder Street, on FRIDAY, the 30th inst., at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 16th to 30th March, both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1917. [388]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, 29th March, 1917, both days inclusive.
The return of Capital of \$2.50 per Share will be paid to Shareholders on and after the 15th March, 1917, on presentation of Share Certificates for endorsement.
By Order of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Hongkong, 22nd February, 1917. [329]

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LIMITED

(Incorporated in the United Kingdom).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the COLONIAL (Hongkong) REGISTER of the Company will be CLOSED on TUESDAY, 27th March, 1917, to WEDNESDAY, 28th March, 1917, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
W. E. ROBERTS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 19th March, 1917. [420]

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE immediately after the ANNUAL MEETING to be held on MONDAY, the 26th March, 1917, at 2 P.M., in the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOM, NEW GOVERNMENT BUILDING.
A desire has been expressed that the following Resolution shall be put:
"That Clause 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce should be amended by the insertion of the word 'British' between the word 'ten' and the word 'Members' in the first line thereof."
By Order,
E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1917. [399]

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-FIRST YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the HONGKONG CLUB will be held in the Club House, on THURSDAY, the 29th March, 1917, at 5.30 P.M.
By Order,
E. DES VOIGES,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1917. [422]

INTIMATIONS

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE Special Attention of the Public is directed to the undermentioned Regulations which form part of the Regulations made by the Governor in Council under Section 8 of the Electricity Supply Ordinance, 1911, on the 15th March, 1917:

- 33.—Any person making any addition to any electrical installation connected to the Company's main without obtaining the written consent of the Company thereto shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$100 for every such addition.
- 34.—Any consumer upon whose premises any such addition shall be found shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$100 for every day or part of a day during which such addition shall have been in existence. In this regulation "consumer" means the person in whose name the contract for the supply of electricity to such premises was made with the Company, or if there be no such person, the principal tenant or person in actual occupation of the premises in which such addition shall be found.

Having regard to the possibility of a breakdown of the Company's present plant through unauthorized additions to existing installations the Public is earnestly requested to co-operate with the Company by bringing to the Company's notice any contraventions of the above regulations.
Dated this 20th day of March, 1917.
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
[427]

NOTICE.

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the General Police Station between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.
Applicants will be required to produce Passports or Identification papers.
All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.
Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.
The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.
[48]

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersigned at Noon, on WEDNESDAY, the 28th inst.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 14th to the 23rd inst., both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Managers.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 4th March, 1917. [382]

CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-NINTH ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS of the above Company will be held at the Office of the General Agents, Pedder Street, on FRIDAY, the 30th inst., at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1916.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 16th to 30th March, both days inclusive.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1917. [388]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, 29th March, 1917, both days inclusive.
The return of Capital of \$2.50 per Share will be paid to Shareholders on and after the 15th March, 1917, on presentation of Share Certificates for endorsement.
By Order of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Hongkong, 22nd February, 1917. [329]

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LIMITED

(Incorporated in the United Kingdom).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the COLONIAL (Hongkong) REGISTER of the Company will be CLOSED on TUESDAY, 27th March, 1917, to WEDNESDAY, 28th March, 1917, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
W. E. ROBERTS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 19th March, 1917. [420]

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE immediately after the ANNUAL MEETING to be held on MONDAY, the 26th March, 1917, at 2 P.M., in the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROOM, NEW GOVERNMENT BUILDING.
A desire has been expressed that the following Resolution shall be put:
"That Clause 6 of the Rules and Regulations of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce should be amended by the insertion of the word 'British' between the word 'ten' and the word 'Members' in the first line thereof."
By Order,
E. A. M. WILLIAMS,
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Hongkong, 16th March, 1917. [399]

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE THIRTY-FIRST YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the HONGKONG CLUB will be held in the Club House, on THURSDAY, the 29th March, 1917, at 5.30 P.M.
By Order,
E. DES VOIGES,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1917. [422]

INTIMATION

WATSON'S

THE PREMIER SCOTCH

OF THE FAR EAST

FOR 25 YEARS.



POPULARITY MAINTAINED

BY ITS

EXCELLENT QUALITY

NOT BY EXPENSIVE

WORLD-WIDE ADVERTISING.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

HONGKONG.

TELEPHONE 616.

not be the primary reason. By her system of taxation Britain is able to raise a larger revenue than is obtained by those countries which trust mainly to protective duties; and, if this large revenue is due to the prosperity of the people, this prosperity may no less be rightly ascribed to the benefits of free-trade. In many cases high import duties are justified on the ground that they assist the development of infant industries. An economic policy once started, however, is not easily abandoned, and there is a tendency for protection to be continued long after the industry has reached a position in which it no longer requires support—or should no longer require support, if it is to be profitable to the country—with the result that the evils continue without any counter-balancing benefits. In a still larger number of cases the high import duties have no connection with the protection of infant industries or with sources of revenue. They seem rather to owe their origin to a mistaken idea of trade and commerce. The policy of excluding imports, if logically applied to all countries, would bring all trade and commerce to a standstill, and would send us back to the tribal state, when even the faintest ideas as to the solidarity of mankind were undiscernible. Yet a principle which would not for a moment be accepted between two individuals, or between the members of a village or urban community, is accepted as applicable to the relations between two countries. Unfortunately, the idea that international trade and commerce are a kind of civil warfare is everywhere encouraged. Until we can get rid of this idea of international trade being merely a conflict of interests we shall never have that world-wide adoption of free-trade which COBEN and BRIGHT predicted, and the all-round benefits which would accompany such an adoption. In the meantime we have to ask ourselves whether our present system may not be modified with advantage. The paramount question to-day is not solely one of pounds, shillings and pence, though, even if it were, the effect of the concessions which our Dominions and Allies are willing to offer us may be found to compensate us fully for any sacrifices which we may be called upon to make in other directions. Important as the financial aspect of the matter admittedly is—more especially in view of the enormous debt that will rest upon Great Britain as a consequence of the war—it must not be allowed to obscure all other considerations, such as the consolidation of the Empire and the development of those industries necessary to render the Empire self-supporting. Apart altogether from sentimental objections to the re-establishment of close commercial relations with nations whose conduct has aroused in us feelings of the deepest loathing, we cannot afford again to allow essential industries to be controlled by those who may become our enemies. If in order to enjoy those safeguards, which bitter experience has shown to be necessary, we suffer some discomforts, prudence leaves us no alternative but to accept them. We must regard them, like the cost of maintaining our Army and Navy, as a part of our Imperial insurance.

MARRIAGES.

BRADSHAW-PETERS.—At No. 19, Quinson Road, Shanghai, on March 14th, by the Rev. P. Parker, JAMES BRADSHAW to JENNIE PETERS, of Chefoo.

HALL-WATSON.—On the 21st March, at the Union Church, Kennedy Road, Hongkong, by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald, Lieut. A. E. HALL, R.G.A., son of Mr. ALBERT Y. W. HALL, Oxford, Eng., to Miss BLANCHER WATSON, daughter of Mr. ALEXANDER WATSON, Kennedy Town, Hongkong. [434]

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOIGES ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FINSBURY SQUARE, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 22ND MARCH, 1917.

FREE TRADE V. COLONIAL PREFERENCE.

The memorandum issued by the Free Trade Union setting out a series of arguments against Colonial preference shows that the revelations of the war have not sufficed to kill the opposition to any radical change in our fiscal system. When COBEN and BRIGHT were carrying on their campaign in favour of free-trade they confidently predicted that other nations would follow Britain's example. The prediction has not been fulfilled. Indeed, far from following Britain's example there has been a strong tendency in the other direction throughout Europe, and even the Dominions which Great Britain has founded over the seas have adopted an economic policy different from that of the Mother Country. Yet the benefits of free-trade to Britain have been so obvious that foreign statesmen of opposite views have had to seek reasons why it has proved beneficial in her case but would not be beneficial in theirs. The immense stores of wealth which Great Britain has poured out in prosecution of the war are a sufficient answer to those who described free-trade as a losing game. What, then, are the reasons which have kept other countries from following Britain's lead? Although purposes of revenue may have had something to do with it, this could

A Chinese woman residing at 2, Nam Chung village, has reported to the police that, soon after midnight on the 19th, four men, armed with knives and revolvers, forced an entry into her house, "covered" her with their revolvers, and got away with clothing, money and jewellery to the extent of \$175.

As about 240 members of the Hongkong Volunteer Reserves are being conveyed by train to the Peak between 2.15 and 3.30 p.m. on Saturday, the general managers of the Tramway Company ask Peak residents and the public generally to refrain from travelling to the Peak during this particular time on that day.

MILITARY WEDDING AT HONGKONG.

HALL-WATSON.

Yesterday afternoon, a pretty military wedding was celebrated at the Union Church, Kennedy Road. The bridegroom was Lieutenant A. E. Hall, Royal Garrison Artillery, son of Mr. Albert Y. W. Hall, Oxford, England, and the bride was Miss Blanche Watson, daughter of Mr. Alexander Watson, Kennedy Town, Hongkong.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of crepe silk, trimmed with shadow lace, and a crush silk belt. Her bridal veil was of tulle with silk embroidery, surmounted by a wreath of real orange blossom, and her bouquet was composed of Easter lilies and orange blossom. Miss Katie Watson, sister of the bride, attended as bridesmaid, and her dress was of silk crepe, trimmed with chiffon, with hat to match. Her bouquet was composed of tea roses. Her two little sisters, Connie and Jessie, who acted as assistants, carried baskets of sweet peas. The duties of "best man" were carried out by 2nd Lieut. John P. Jones, R.G.A. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. K. Macdonald, in the presence of a large congregation, which included a number of the bridegroom's brother officers, and other military friends, in uniform. Mr. Chapman presided at the organ, and the musical part of the service included the bridal march from "Lohengrin," the hymns "The Voice that Breathed o'er Eden," and "O God of Bethel," while Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" was played as the wedding party left the church.

The honeymoon will be spent in the New Territory.

SOLDIER AND A WATCH.

K.S.L.I. MAN CHARGED.

At the Hongkong Magistracy yesterday, a private in the K.S.L.I., named George Lloyd, was charged with the theft of a watch, valued at \$10, the property of a second-hand dealer, of 167, Queen's Road West.

When charged the defendant admitted taking the watch, but alleged that it was a watch he lost over three months ago. He brought the watch with him from England.

The shopman spoke to defendant coming into his shop and pointing out a watch which was worth \$10. When the soldier asked the price of the watch he was told \$20. Defendant took hold of the watch, put his own on the counter, along with his soldier's cane, and then ran out of the shop. Witness gave chase and also raised an alarm, as a result of which the soldier was caught by an Indian constable and taken to No. 7 Police Station.

Corroborative evidence was given by another Chinese, who was in the shop at the time, and the Indian constable also gave evidence of arrest.

Inspector O'Sullivan said that when defendant was brought to the station he gave the name of John Evans. The charge was explained to him, and then defendant stated that he had a watch like the one alleged to have been stolen, which he brought with him from England. His father bought it at a second-hand shop, and gave it to him as a birthday present. He went to the plaintiff's shop and recognised the watch as his as soon as he saw it. It was, he added, stolen from him at the Bijou Theatre.

Defendant's story was to the effect that he went into the shop, had a look at the watch (produced) and at once recognised it as his own; therefore he walked out of the shop with the watch. Soon afterwards the shopkeeper came running after him, and took from him, as defendant alleged, his own watch, his stick and also \$1.50 from his pocket. Defendant also stated that another Chinese brandished a knife at him and threatened to strike him on the head with it.

Mr. Wood reserved his decision in the case, at the same time mentioning that the defendant would be detained in Victoria Goal for a week while he considered the case. The Magistrate also intimated that the defendant would be kept under observation.

It is believed that the explosion was
among the vessels in the fairway.

OUR LONDON LETTER. THE LATEST PHASE OF "FRIGHTFULNESS."

NEW WAR LOAN AND HOARDED
"GOLD."

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON, February 5th.
It is a curious commentary on the latest phase of German "frightfulness" that the belligerents were not perturbed by the announcement. The declaration of the Kaiser and his accomplices to sink all ships at sight within certain areas left the British public cold. The First of February was duly announced as the date for beginning the new frenzy of submarine warfare; but there was no excitement on the London Stock Exchange, or the Baltic, or at Lloyd's. Nobody seemed to be disturbed—certainly not "the man in the street," or the man in the train in the street, or the man in the newspaper. Reading his favourite newspaper, reason, of course, that Great Britain, against whom the Hun fury always has been specially directed, has had experience of what has been advertised with so much trumpeting and bombast.

So far as we are concerned we know that the Germans have never hesitated to sink British ships with every accompaniment of barbarity. They have done it on all occasions that they have had the chance. The Kaiser's loud talk about the dreadful things that is now to be our fate is simply the raving of a desperado who knows he is beaten and can foresee his doom. The Peace proposals on which the gullible Teutons have been having proved abortive, there has been nothing more for the German Government to do except continue the war. But they are doing it in the temper of a wild beast in a cage, with howlings of rage and despair, and an utter disregard of ultimate consequences and of the final and inevitable reckoning at the close of the tragedy.

"FREEDOM OF THE SEA."

Looking back over the war as it can be observed from the new "frightfulness" is merely the old savagery with a fresh label. With all its raving in diplomatic Notes about the "Freedom of the Sea" the Germans have outraged every law of the sea. Many readers of this column will doubtless recollect how shocked the world was in July, 1914, when the Japanese cruiser *Naniwa* sank the steamer *Kowloon* loaded with Chinese troops. This feeling was entertained by fighting men as well as others, as may be seen by reference to Admiral Kitchener's book "The Navy As I know it." The Admiral was then in command on the China station. But note how civilization has been degraded compared with that time. The sinking of a transport is now an ordinary episode of war as practised by the Huns. And not only so, but the enemy has not hesitated to torpedo hospital ships, and has formally declared his intention to do so regularly in the future.

Moreover, the Germans have striven since in the track of neutral shipping from the outset of the war, regardless of the rights of humanity and the rights of nations. Next they sank the passenger liner *Lauro* without warning; they then proceeded with the *Lusitania* and the *Polara*, and after that they put down neutral ships when they were not carrying contraband, at the same time taking credit to themselves for allowing the crews time to launch open boats in a heavy sea many miles from land! Every one of these acts of savagery was a crime against mankind and the settled usages of civilized nations as laid down by the Hague Convention and solemnly ratified by Germany.

With this long list before us (not to mention other atrocities) it is likely we can be frightened by any new threat of murder and piracy. The enemy has already done his best, and his worst, against us, and he has not spared neutrals either. Now by way of a culminating outrage he threatens to sink all neutral ships without warning. No roving pirate of old ever attempted more cold-blooded murder than this, and the policy brands Germany as a pariah among the nations.

MONEY FOR THE WAR LOAN.

Money keeps rolling in for the War Loan. Great financial houses, and business firms throughout the Kingdom have bought it in blocks of hundreds of thousands and millions sterling. This is very impressive after more than two and a half years of war involving expenditure beyond anything previously dreamed of as possible. It is a monumental proof of the wealth and stability of Britain. It justifies and illuminates the Prime Minister's metaphor that to the Allies his country stands like "a great tower in the desert." But although at the time of writing money is flowing into the Treasury in a mighty stream, the amount required is so colossal that there are doubts whether in the final result enough will be subscribed. It is stated semi-officially that £3,000,000,000 is the sum needed; if the Loan is to be regarded as a complete success. No doubt that is an outside figure. Be that as it may, there is a firm belief that, if necessary, the Government will resort to the conscription of wealth and command as much as they are not going to be beaten at the finish for lack of money.

An interesting speculation arises as to the amount of hoarded money in the country. There are vast numbers of people who have put money by "for a rainy day." A few instances have come to light already, as in the case of a man who walked into the New Malden branch of the London and South-Western Bank and dumped down a large leather bag on the floor, at the same time casually remarking to the cashier that he had brought £3,000 in gold to be invested in the Loan. A friend in touch with banking operations tells me that recently more gold has been paid into the banks than at any other period since war began, and the paper currency was established. This supports the idea that there are secret hoards. Anyway most of us have had our eyes gladdened by the sight of a gold coin for a couple of years, nor are we likely to see one for a good while to come!

THE GERMAN MOTIVE. AMERICA AS SHOCK-ABSORBER.

[BY SIDNEY LOW.]

The Germans may be acting with mere mad-dog fury; but there is a very intelligible policy underlying their savagery. Nearly two years ago I pointed out in *The Daily Chronicle* that whenever the German Government saw inevitable defeat approaching it would make a desperate attempt to draw America into the war. If possible the United States was to be cajoled or bullied into taking a hand on the side of the Central Powers; but better that they should come in, even in alliance with the enemy, than that they should not come in at all. The reason for this could be discerned plainly enough so long ago as February, 1915. Even then the Prussian ruling group could not have shared the illusion under which they were trying to keep the war in the West. Since they had failed to win the war in their first rush, before their opponents had had time to take breath and pull themselves together, they must have foreseen that they would not win it at all. Defeat might be postponed for a year, two years, three years; but they knew, and knew, at Potsdam and Berlin that they must come when Germany would be exhausted and overwhelmed.

And when the catastrophes became imminent it was reasonably certain that Prussian diplomacy would fall back upon the United States as a last resource. If it could get the American Government to induce the Allied Powers to enter into negotiations on equal terms, so much the better. This was what the Berlin Foreign Office was attempting in its recent "Peace" offers; but their tentative in this direction have failed. President Wilson's Note has been drawn from the Allied Government, an uncompromising statement of their determination to go on till complete and unmistakable victory is assured.

ENTANGLING AMERICA.
That being so, the Prussian rulers turn to the other alternative. If the Republic will not come into the ring as a friend, it must be dragged in as an opponent. For if the Washington Government could be incited to declare war against Germany, that country—or at any rate its governing circle—would gain two substantial advantages. First and foremost, it might contrive to redeem some portion of its credit with its own subjects, so that defeat might be accepted without provoking revolutionary anger against the military clique and the Hohenzollern dynasty. The Government of Prussia-Germany could pretend that it had in reality won the war against its European antagonists, and had magnanimously proposed to offer easy terms of peace to the defeated Allies. These generous conditions being rejected, Germany was just about to start to reduce her foes to final subjection by the new frightfulness when the United States threw its weight into the scale.

That, of course, the official apologist will say, made all the difference. America is so big and so strong that Germany could not be expected to continue the struggle unless she was provided with this most formidable reinforcement. To yield to America would be much less disagreeable to Teutonic sensitiveness than to have to admit humiliation at the hands of Great Britain, France, and Russia; and a well-drilled, inspired Press would take care to insist that it was by the mighty Transatlantic champion, not the European combination, that the defeat had really been brought about. This would give a plausible excuse for surrender, and might avert, or at least mitigate, those internal troubles which already are looming large upon the political horizon.

AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE.
But there is another way in which the active participation of the United States in the quarrel might prove extremely useful to the rulers of Germany. It would be very much in their interest to have America represented at the conference table at which the terms of peace would be arranged. From their European adversaries the Germans knew well enough—even before the publication of the Allied Note and Mr. Balfour's recent statement—that they had no indulgence to expect. We shall not be unduly revengeful; we shall not annihilate the German people; we shall be just; but we shall be implacably stern. After all that has happened, after the shocking crimes that have been committed, and the appalling losses inflicted, the outraged nations will be in no lenient mood when the time comes for settlement with their savage and brutal aggressor. The United States, as the Germans no doubt hope, might prove more amenable.

I may, perhaps, be allowed to quote what I have already written on this subject in these columns. America, I said, has not nor is she likely to have, the same motives as the European States. She will come to the council-board in the somewhat detached frame of mind with which her statesmen usually contemplate European politics, not specially enthusiastic for the cause of the Allies, and perhaps a little disposed to sympathize with Germany as the under-dog. One can imagine how American civility will be invoked to deal generously with a gullible adversary; how an idealistic President (not unmindful of the German-American vote) will be urged to oppose the vindictiveness of those of us here in Europe who do not intend to have to fight Germany for our lives a second time. All this would suit the diplomatists of the Wilhelmstrasse very well indeed. They cannot wish to be left alone in the day of their humiliation, with their present opponents. America would make a very convenient shock-absorber, perhaps she might even be used as a lever to wrench the victorious Coalition asunder, or at least to obtain easier terms for the vanquished.

This seemed to me the aspect in which the question might be expected to present itself to the Prussian ruling party two years ago; and all these considerations are intensified to-day. As a shock-absorber the United States Government, balancing desperately on the brink of apocalyptic national collapse and military defeat. But all this, as Mr. T. P. O'Connor has just been pointing out, is based on what may prove to be only an

(Continued at foot of next column.)

IN LIBERTY'S DEFENCE. THE PRICE OF AN IDEAL.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT TO "THE TIMES."]

By a true enough instinct the popular imagination has always seized upon the arena as typical of the collision between paganism and Christianity. The few weak and helpless individuals confronting death on the egg-shaped sand, and ringing them round, the vast concourse indirectly to the cruel zest of the resources, spiritual and material, of two ideals. Outwardly paganism triumphs and its rival is broken beneath its numbers and its strength. But to a philosophic eye, capable of gauging the thought behind the act, victory might already be seen declaring itself on the side of the apparently vanquished. For the death declared the presence of an idea greater than life itself; whereas, among the onlookers, no one could detect no faith or purpose of such a price. Christianity was to live because it could command the sacrifice of life. Paganism was to die because it contained nothing worth dying for.

But the contrast merely illustrates the encounter of truth and falsehood through the course of history. The ideals that are to prevail over the future of mankind are championed with a tenacity proportioned to their intrinsic value. Represented by their early stages by a few chosen spirits, whose fate it is to encounter and be crushed by the weight of the established order of things, they enter by degrees into a wider incarnation among the masses of the people. From a few to many; the light-passes; and as it passes the struggle changes its character from persecution to more and more even content, and finally to the victory of the incoming over the outgoing idea.

THE OPPOSING FORCES.
Such has been the routine. But through each phase of the struggle runs the old difference, the difference in the value of motives, the difference of the arena. One side has at its back all outward forms of strength, an iron will, an exact discipline, trained armies, an absolute control over all the resources of the State. The other relies directly on this. That it has a true and noble ideal, that it has the utmost importance to mankind. Quite obviously this is the secret of its strength, indeed, for long it has no other. Liberty starts as a war cry, a banner waved, a trumpet blown. Its battalions come after. It works like a kind of magic; for its power depends on no external things, but proceeds directly from within. It is going to be a light in the world, it is going to help mankind. It is by this way that the onward march of humanity lies, and with that curious and profound instinct for what is of value to the race, the people gather round it and expose their naked breasts in its defence. The real strength of their cause is in itself, in the fact that it is a superimposed act of authority, but a living impulse and a living prompting to constant self-sacrifice. Indeed, the great loyalties are wonderful things. For this thought, for a good thing could never cease to fulfil, how many thousands have lived the lives of hunted deer and died upon the scaffold!

There is an advantage in recalling these things in this hour of trial. The lives we are offering up are the price of an ideal. Some say that truth prevails in its own nature, and no doubt speculation and purely rational truth may so prevail. But not the great controversial truths which lie at the root of progressive government and racial evolution. Liberty has never advanced through the arguments of philosophers, but through the devotion and self-sacrifice of its believers. It is as the victor in a hundred fights that it has come down to us. Again and again it has proved its inherent value by the sacrifices it has been able to command. Lives have paid the toll for its advance. And if in the present step of its advance, and if in the present struggle the toll is heavier than ever before, it is because the crisis is greater, because from the national scale the controversy has passed to the international. Our race has often bled for English liberty; it is called upon to-day to bleed for a European, a world-wide liberty. Moreover, its enemy is of like proportions. It would seem as if the Prussian State had been destined and set apart from the beginning to rally the forces of tyranny for its last encounter. By sheer efficiency by the superiority, not only of her military genius but of her intellectual defence of tyranny as a principle, Prussia has gathered under her leadership all the scattered and hitherto ineffective elements of tyranny which exist in Europe. It is the little States that breed the big ideas. Palestine is one example, Greece another; yet a third is Prussia. The first stood for spiritual liberty, the second for intellectual liberty, the third for the tyrannical ideal complete in action and in thought.

And in this last encounter it will be as in every other—that side will win which can endure longest and suffer most. In this world everything sooner or later fetches its price. Life by the price of the truth we fight for has to be paid down until falsehood is outbid and gives place to truth. There never has been any other way than this. Is liberty of more value than tyranny to men, then it can endure and triumph. It is precisely those who resist most fully the nature of liberty, who think of it not so much as an end in itself but as a process of becoming, the germ as it were of a constant growth kept in motion by the exercise of the human faculties on all the problems of life—it is these who, estimating its influence on the centuries to come, least grudge the cost they are now paying for it. We ought to be grudging it. People who do not sanctify of life and the horror of death and suffering take a too gross and material view of the human lot. We are privileged; it is not given to every generation to die for the truth.

Other Teutonic misunderstanding of national psychology. America, if compelled, after long hesitation and reluctance, to draw the sword against Germany, is not likely to fall in with the plans of the Berlin war-makers, and peace-makers in the convenient fashion they expect.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

"THE GARDEN OF EDEN." DIFFICULTIES AND DISCOMFORTS EXPERIENCED BY OUR TROOPS.

From time to time references have appeared in the papers to adverse climatic conditions in Mesopotamia. They have spoken vaguely of rain and mud, river difficulties, swamps and disease; but, so far, no one has attempted a description of the extraordinary natural conditions which have been met by our forces on that front.

The root of the trouble is the astonishingly unpleasant geography of the Euphrates valley. This latter is known as the Iraq and is a vast plain of alluvial clay stretching from Baghdad to the sea. On the Western border the sterile deserts of Arabia Infelix come down to the Euphrates, and on the East the plain of mud is bounded by the Persian mountains running parallel to the left bank of the Tigris. Such are the borders of the valley; on the one side waterless desert, on the other inhospitable mountains.

Military operations are of necessity confined to the valley, as desert and hills are alike impassable and waterless. The valley itself is barren, an endless region of marsh and swamp, small streams and vast patches of mud, unrelieved by the smallest hill or natural eminence throughout. Baghdad, some three hundred miles from the sea, stands on a bare hundred feet above sea-level. Ctesiphon, Kut-el-Amara and Shaik-Saad are the only places on the river that lie a few feet above flood level, and in the wet season the whole valley is inundated—an endless sea of mud.

Not only is the wet season—due to the flooding of the rivers by the melting of the Caucasian snows—troublesome, but a sudden rainstorm or a change of wind alters the whole face of the country.

The brackish lakes that lie alongside the river are fanned by the wind and extend over the surrounding marshes and mud flats. These shifting lakes may move a mile or two under the influence of a prevailing wind. The water barging on at the rate of twelve or fifteen yards a minute may engulf a camp that has been pitched on perfectly dry ground.

The mud when dry affords a surface that will bear light military traffic, but in the hot season it cracks and grapes, splits up in all directions, so that cavalry and horse traffic cannot move. As a result, caucways have had to be built, and along them all troops, guns and transport move to their camps and trenches.

The camps, thanks to the moving lakes and overflows from the rivers, must be surrounded by dams and earthworks unless the occupants choose to run the risk of being flooded out suddenly in the middle of the night.

The great rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates, have been backed up by the work of generations of Arabs, and their water level is two to three feet above the level of the surrounding country. Outlets of them, and also contained by these banks or "bunds," run side streams to the lakes and marshes, creeks and watercourses to irrigate the dry mud belts between the rivers and the swamps.

Great care has to be taken to maintain these "bunds" as a casual break may inundate a vast area of country. This adds another difficulty to the campaign, as by a tactical use of this power of inundation, large areas may be made impassable to troops.

In Mesopotamia every conceivable combination of natural forces combats the prosecution of military operations. The climate is intolerable, extremes of burning heat, when cases of sunstroke occur daily, alternating with periods of bitter cold. From November to May is the cold season; from May to October the period of heat. Through the cool season occasional thunderstorms occur. In March, April and May—despite the fair weather, however—there are heavy rains, and the melting Caucasian snow and all the country is under water. The period of greatest heat and low water occur together, so that at the very moment that the barren land of the Iraq becomes traversable the climate is intolerable.

These are the conditions that our forces have had to face, a country of mud and barren flats which necessitate frontal attacks across levels affording no shadow of cover. Lack of drinking water, all the lakes and swamps being brackish, and an utter absence of stone, trees and timber of any description.

There is no shade except for a few poor date palms, and the palms furnish neither timber nor can they be cut for firewood. Every article of wood for any purpose has to be imported from India or elsewhere. Even local supplies—such as vegetables, fodder, salt, rice and barley—cannot be got in sufficient quantity. This is due not so much to the absence or scarcity of these essentials as to the fact that local transport among the Arabs is not adequate to the task of bringing them in. Even grass for the horses is lacking—it is scarce, cannot be depended on, and rarely grows where it is most wanted.

Add to these conditions the North-west wind, the "Shamsil," a drying wind that blows at forty miles an hour for some forty days of the year, raising vast dust storms. The "Shamsil" is the intolerable hot wind of the Arabian deserts, and the heavy dust-laden oppressive Southern wind, and some idea can be obtained of the horrors of the climate. These dust storms interfere with artillery observation and with aeroplane reconnaissance alike. They drive the shifting lakes over the dry cramping ground, and fill all your food and every crevice of anything you may possess with fine dust.

To the lack of all other resources must be added the absence of any decent building material. There is no stone in the country and the houses are built of dry mud, quite unsuited to all army purposes, and there are neither cooking facilities, water, nor sanitation.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

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until you are worse before starting a campaign against disease. No matter how slight may be your indisposition your immediate steps be taken to dispense it. Of course, you expect to get better and not worse, but where health is in question you are never justified in leaving anything to chance, and as is well known, indisposition, instead of disappearing of its own sweet will, frequently develops serious disorders if neglected. Your safest course is to

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NOW.

The best houses consist of a square shell of small two-story rooms set round a courtyard, whose sides slope towards a small central hole. This is the cesspool, and whenever the floods occur the subsoil water rises through the hole, flooding the courtyard and the lower rooms as well. In dry weather this flood subsides, and the courtyard, exposed to a vile stench. These, the only houses, are quite unfit for use as hospitals, headquarters or even stores.

New houses have to be built for these purposes, and before they can be built foundations of earth must be laboriously brought up on boats and in mule panniers, and a mound erected, otherwise the water would rise up, destroy the foundations, and the whole structure would be swept away.

So low-lying and water-logged is the country that even the cemeteries have had to be built up with earth, as it was found that in digging graves at ground level water rose in the hole long before a necessary depth could be attained.

Climatic, natural features, and all the conditions and characteristics of Mesopotamia have combined to throw every possible obstacle in the way of successful military operations. Sand, and shortage of water, and floods, dust-storms, thunderstorms and flies, one piled thick upon another. One can but wonder how our men have done as well as they have in face of almost overpowering difficulties.



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[5]

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Particulars of outgoing and incoming Mail, other than those shown below, will not be advertised in future.
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Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Liberia, Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Morocco cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

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For	ON WEEK-DAYS	ON SUNDAYS & HOLIDAYS
Tai O ...	5.0 P.M.	—
Tai Po ...	1.00 P.M.	9.00 A.M.
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Shantou, Shatin and Sheungshui	4.00 P.M.	—
Aberdeen, Antau, Ping Shan, Sai Kung	4.30 P.M.	—
Satin, Stanley	—	—
Canton Samshui and Wanchow	7.30 A.M. 1.00 P.M. Letters 6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.
Macao	7.15 A.M. 1.30 P.M. 6.00 P.M.	8.00 A.M.
Kongmoon	6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
Namtau and Sanmei	6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
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From Sheungwan Western Branch P.O.

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Shok Ki	9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-NIGHT
9.15 p.m. — Clarke's Circus at Kowloon, opposite the Railway Station.

Monday, 26th March —
4 p.m. — Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting in the Chamber of Commerce Room, New Government Building.

Tuesday, 27th March —
11.30 a.m. — Green Island Cement Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.
Noon — Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.

Wednesday, 28th March —
4 p.m. — The Association of Exporters and Dealers of Hongkong, Annual General Meeting in the Chamber of Commerce Room, New Government Building.

Thursday, 29th March —
11.30 a.m. — Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.
Noon — Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.

Friday, 30th March —
11.30 a.m. — Union Waterboat Co., Ltd., Extraordinary General Meeting at the Office of Messrs. Dowell & Co., Ltd.
5.30 p.m. — Hongkong Club Yearly General Meeting.

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Documentary Bills at 3 months' sight	2 1/4
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	324
Credits, at 4 months' sight	336
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	55 1/2
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ON BOMBAY.—	
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ON CALCUTTA.—	
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ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank Bills, at sight	nom.
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ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	95 1/2
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ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	3 1/2 %
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SOVEREIGN, Bank's Buying Rate	66
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